



October 2024

From the Prez:

Continuing Resolution: I resolve to support EAA Chapter 776 by attendance at monthly chapter meetings and functions and provide volunteer labor to accomplish our plans. Please participate and make your chapter leaders happy to see your cheerful noses in attendance at chapter events.

The next Chapter meeting will be in the front room of the terminal in the baggage claim area Tuesday, Tuesday, Oct 8, 2024, at 6 PM. We will start with a potluck social half hour then continue to the business and pleasure meeting.

We have learned recently of the passing of Harry Bladow, long time chapter member and Beech Bonanza pilot. Harry's wife, Suzanne, flew west several years ago. No obituary was published so we have no details. We extend our sympathies to all concerned.

Carole and I continued our summer's aviation activity by traveling to two faraway places to attend aviation events. The first event was a drop in to visit with Joe Spurgeon and fellow Pulsar aviators at their annual Pulsar reunion in Lawrence, Kansas. We were scheduled to be in Lawrence at the same time so when Joe told me he would be there I invited us to drop in and get acquainted with his crowd. As with all our aviation friends, Pulsar owners are quite friendly and eager and willing to talk aviation, even to a Short Wing Piper interloper. Unfortunately, the weather was bad so we did not see any flying activity, but



EAA Chapter 776

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Upcoming Events

[EAA Ch 776](#) meeting **October 8th, 6pm at the Terminal Building**

12 October, Young Eagles at KDGL, Douglas Muni. 7 AM

26 October, School group, Young Eagles at KFHU

Coolidge Fly-in b'fast. 1st Saturday

Grapevine camping/BBQ 3d Saturday

Casa Grande fly-in b'fast 4th Saturday

[Arizona Pilot's Association \(APA\) Calendar](#)

[APA Newsletter](#)

[New Mexico Pilot's Association Calendar](#)

[This Day in Aviation](#)

we did kick a few tires and learn more about Pulsars. We had a great visit with the



Reunion organizer who has been doing these reunions in Lawrence for several years. He is also heavily involved in Lawrence airport operations. His energy and optimism were very refreshing. ('Twould be great if Sierra Vista had an advocate like he is to promote our airport!)

Next we drove to Sterling, Colorado to attend our annual Short Wing Piper Southwest Regional type club gathering. This was another time of visiting with long time Short Wing Piper friends from far away to enjoy four days of fellowship and fraternization. Sterling, Colorado is an interesting town in northeast Colorado with several significant enterprises to brag about. First, they have a renowned sculpture artist in residence,



Bradford Rhea, who gave us an interesting tour of his studio. The blocks of marble



shown only weigh 30,000 pounds. Second, they have the major manufacturer of carnival rides in America who gave us a tour of his machine shop/manufacturing facility. Third,



we were entertained by a lady impersonator who presented a monologue of Maria Von Trapp telling the real "Sound of Music" story. Of course, as is always the case, the real story varies considerably from what the Hollywood movie portrayed. Of note and indicative of the times we are living in, we were uplifted with the presence of three ladies/widows of Short Wing friends who have recently flown west who drove in from Washington, Nebraska and Oklahoma to be with us. A fourth fellow, a widower, drove in from Arkansas with his new lady friend to participate in our get together.

Plans are progressing for our Young Eagles Flight Rally in Douglas on Saturday, October 12. As Larry will report, plans are solidifying, and we do now appear to have sufficient pilots with help coming to us from Phoenix, Tucson and Cochise College to handle the expected load. Several of us will go to Douglas Friday afternoon, Oct 11, to set up operations. We need everyone to join in and volunteer with the ground operations people to make this another successful event.

Remember our election of officers will take place during the November meeting. Please come and join in the governance of our chapter.

Community: We are a family – a family brought together by aviation...Paul Poberezny

Fly Safe,

Cliff



Young Eagles

We've got lots of action coming up as we get to the end of the summer and into fall.

12 October at Douglas Muni. This is a return to our large rally done in past years with the help of the Douglas Rotary Club. We currently have 9 planes lined up. We can always use more help, so if you can, come on out and lend a hand. Briefings are at 7am and we start flying at 7:30.

Our next event is a small group of home school students on 26 October at KFHu. If you can help with this one, please let Larry know. We'll need 2-3 planes and a couple of people for ground help.

After that, we have an American Heritage Girls Group at KFHu on the 16th of

November. Again, a small group. Contact Larry if you can help out.

We've also got a one-off request in Nogales. Your editor Mooney is down in an extended annual (parts hunt). If you want to do this one, please contact [Larry](#).



EAA CHAPTER 776 THE SKY ISLAND EAGLES Minutes

Minutes for EAA Ch 776 Meeting 10 Sep 2024

It was almost a full house with 15 members and one guest attending. Those present were Cliff and Carole Van Vleet, George Clarke, Larry Portouw, Joe Spurgeon, Anne Ballinger, Paul Brick, Ben Middleton, Chris Daley, Joe Mika, Greg Loughran, Jon Nelson, Chris Ireland, Jason Steinberg, Michelle Snodgrass, and guest George Taylor.

Following the Pledge of Allegiance and the Welcome/Introductions, Secretary George Clarke asked that the May meeting minutes as published in the August Newsletter be accepted and they were seconded and approved by the members' unanimous vote.

Treasurer Jon Nelson's report was: Checking \$1,043.64, Young Eagle Savings \$7,238.55, Young Eagle funds from 9 Month TSC \$15,437.90.

Our Young Eagle coordinator, Larry Portouw, affirmed the Young Eagle Fly-In in Douglas to be on 12 Oct 2024 with back date of 19 Oct. Start flying time is to be 0730. Arrival time for pilots and ground crew and briefing times are to be determined later. Cliff and George reminded the members that the south ramp was the better surface of the two ramps and that they would rather set up

there if the city did not have an objection (that ramp was closed for a while in the Trump wall-building days). A date to check out the Douglas ramp, meet with a Rotary representative, and City personnel was set for 28 Sep 2024. Time to be determined after coordination with all parties. The chapter plans to be at Douglas airport on Friday afternoon the 11th of Oct to set up tent, cones, etc. for the next day's flying. The exact time has not been set yet. Some folks are planning on staying overnight in Douglas. Larry reminded us that the Rotary will provide a free pancake breakfast for participating chapter members and pilots. Also, those pilots not having taken the EAA Child Protection training or who need to renew their training should do so.

A future Young Eagle event may be on 16 Nov for 6 to 8 young girls sponsored by Suzanna Ignacio along with some ground training for another 5 girls that are too young to fly. This event would need two 3-pax planes and a one-pax plane. It would also help to have a static display plane for the ground training. It was suggested that maybe an iPad with Foreflight could be provided to show the non-flying girls their friends flying around the pattern. If we wanted to add more Young Eagles to this date, we would need some more pilots.

A home school group has shown interest in flying some of their kids, but no date or time has been discussed.

Next up was a report of the Sep 4th meeting of the City Transportation Commission. One of our newest chapter members, and the latest addition to the Commission, Greg Loughran, made this report. The City had a meeting with ADOT and some Federal Transportation folks and, so far, the results have been very positive. Evidently it is very hard to get all of these folks together at one time and they concentrated on the City Bus transit plan. This concerns state and federal funding. The next local meeting for the

Airport Master Plan will be in late October for the second session of local planning. The next Commission meeting will be on 2 Oct at the City Transit center at the SE corner of Coronado and Wilcox at the usual time of 1530. It is open to the public.

Cliff reminded us that elections come again in November and that he will not be the President after December. In fact, all of the present officers would like to step aside for some new blood and ideas in the chapter. So, if you are wanting to help the chapter, please volunteer for a position when the time comes in November.

The next Chapter meeting will be the second Tuesday in October (the 8th) at 1800 in the City terminal.

The meeting was adjourned.



Education Corner

- 1) What condition applies when taking off at a high-density altitude?
 - a. Higher Induced drag.
 - b. Lower induced drag.
 - c. Shorter takeoff roll.
- 2) What is likely to occur if you lift off the runway before reaching rotation speed due to ground effect?
 - a. Increase in stability.
 - b. Decrease in thrust required to maintain flight.
 - c. Inability to climb.
- 3) While attempting a level turn, you begin to lose altitude. In addition to the natural horizon, what should you reference to make

a correction?

- a. Tachometer
- b. Flight instruments
- c. GPS moving map.

4) You're flying in an area of heavy rain with thunderstorms forecast ahead along your route. What is your best course of action?

- a. Continue on.
- b. Divert.
- c. Check PIREPs

5) Ground Control clears you to taxi to a specific runway for departure. You should:

- a. Taxi to the nearest intersection with that runway and hold short.
- b. Pull onto the end of the runway and hold your position.
- c. Taxi up to the beginning of the runway and hold short.

6) What is the main operating principle of a float-type carburetor?

- a. Low pressure in the venturi of the carburetor forces fuel to flow through the main fuel jet and mix with the intake air.
- b. Fuel is discharged into the airstream at a pressure well above atmospheric pressure causing it to vaporize.
- c. Fuel is pumped from the float chamber to the fuel discharge nozzle by an engine-driven fuel pump where it mixes with intake air.

Answers: 1) a, 2) c, 3) b, 4) b, 5) c, and 6) a.



Safety Corner

Do you “[fly the chair?](#)”

We're still looking for a regular monthly author for this section of the newsletter. -ed.



News and Links

FAA Definition change makes it harder to train A&Ps and will exacerbate maintenance availability. [YouTube](#).

[FAA Change to mental health criteria.](#)

[Luke AFB Ends F-16 Ops](#)

[Aviation VHF radio trivia.](#)



For SALE

You can list stuff you have for sale here. Email Larry with your ad.



Editor's notes: Please submit input, to include articles, pictures, and upcoming events before the end of the month to Larry Portouw, aviator@portouw.com. We would also like to identify an author for a Safety Corner submission each month.



More funny aviation clips at www.najaco.com